

KEEPING CONNECTED TO OUR ST MATTHEW'S FAMILY



Fr Peter and Wendy English



Justin Clancy



Bryan Baker and Sussan Ley (pre COVID morning tea)

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

'Never see a need without doing something about it' are familiar words of Mary McKillop seen on the wall behind the beautiful St Matthew's pulpit, and often referred to in sermons have never been more relevant.

The church building is closed, the gates are locked but our action and hearts are not, and these words are ringing through small acts of kindness that are transforming our community.

Nelson Mandela said: 'Be the difference you want to see in the world'

This is translated into making a difference it is not just loving thoughts and prayers but love in action. The action includes making masks, rugs, food, sending cards, phoning and keeping in touch. It might be volunteering in our Op Shop, donating to all care and relief or making items to assist others or growing a bit more love to share in the garden. The mustard seeds are growing throughout this pandemic inspired by the example of those who serve us and keep us safe. Our police, armed forces, nurses, paramedics, policy makers, cleaners, cooks, all hospital workers, researchers looking for a vaccine and for those in essential services.

Let us all Keep Connected in loving action!



Please note we have been having trouble emailing to our distribution groups, therefore, if you have not been receiving The Keeping Connected to our St Matthew's Family Newsletter each fortnight, please go to the St Matthew's website: www.stmatthewsalbury.com and you will find the newsletters on the homepage, under News and Events.



Join us for a Livestream Service each Sunday 9:00 am on our website, Facebook or YouTube. The quickest and easiest way to connect is through YouTube:

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=UUc6-CamX_tB6vXKlAy7uoA

PRAYER

God of love and hope,

you made the world and care for all creation,
but the world feels strange right now.

The news is full of stories about Coronavirus.

Some people are worried that they might get ill.

Others are anxious for their family and friends.

Be with them and help them to find peace.

We pray for the doctors and nurses and scientists,
and all who are working to discover the right medicines
to help those who are ill.

Thank you that even in these anxious times,
you are with us.

Help us to put our trust in you and keep us safe.

Lord in your mercy hear our prayer.



We pray for wisdom in the midst of so much information and so much bad news. Give us the eyes to see the goodness of those caring for us shining through moments of darkness; the mustard seeds of kindness growing a new world of love and compassion.

Lord in your mercy hear our prayer.



**A prayer for ourselves,
our Leaders,
our Media
and all who are trying to help:**

The Prayer of St. Francis

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace
Where there is hatred, let me sow love
Where there is an injury, pardon
Where there is doubt, faith
Where there is despair, hope
Where there is darkness, light
And where there is sadness, joy
Grant that I may
Not so much seek to be consoled as to console
To be understood, as to understand
To be loved, as to love
For it is in giving that we receive
And it's in pardoning that we are pardoned
And it is in dying that we discover the dawn of Everlasting Life
Amen



We pray for ourselves and each other in the words of The Grace:
The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the Friendship of the Holy Spirit be with us all, evermore
Amen.

Readings this week

The first reading comes from the 3rd Chapter 1 Kings - Solomon prays for wisdom

The LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, "What would you like me to do for you?" And Solomon said, "You have always shown great love to my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart; and you have loved him and given him a son to sit on his throne today. And now, you have made me king in place of my father David, even though I am so young and inexperienced and don't know what I am doing! I am leading so many people it seems beyond me. Please give me wisdom and understanding so that I can govern your people properly. I need to see good from evil so I can lead them in the right direction. It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. God said to him, "Because you have asked this, and have not asked for long life or riches for yourself, and haven't asked me to destroy your enemies, I will answer your prayer and give you a wise and discerning mind; you will be the greatest king in history both from the past and into the future. **Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel reading comes from the thirteenth Chapter of Matthew – Jesus tells parables to explain a new type of government where all people are welcomed. He explains that heavenly connection with God and each other is the most valuable thing in the world.

Jesus told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.” He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three cups of flour until all the dough was risen.”

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it. For the Word of God in scripture, for the word of god among us, For the Word of God within us. Thanks be to God.



Paul Hare and Bryan Baker

CHILDREN’S CHURCH a special occasion for Children’s Church Sunday 16th August celebrating their 20th Anniversary, will be featured in our Livestream Service.

Good News for sharing:

***Email** from Rev Maureen and Kevin Beattie: Dear Peter and friends of St Matthews, thank you, for keeping us connected in these disconnected times, we will always feel part of St Matthews family wherever we find ourselves. The lockdown has given us the opportunity to experiment and experience the essence of the Gospel of Jesus the Christ in new ways. Blessing and Peace with Christ to you, Maureen & Kevin



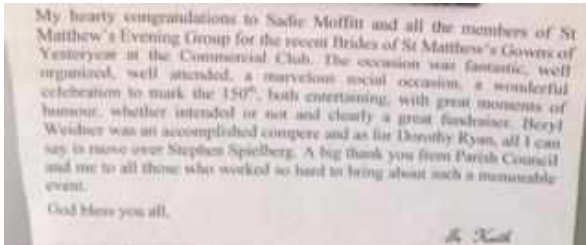
***Congratulations to Judy Kennedy** retiring after 50 years in the library realm.



***St MATTHEW'S MU** gathering 21st July at St Mark's with guest speaker Rev. Catie Inches-Ogden

Rev. Catie is shortly leaving the area, moving to Mansfield, so we were keen to have her speak on her interesting life, and were very happy to be invited to meet at St Marks Nth Albury. Rev. Catie had a pictorial presentation of her life, and kept us all spellbound. In 2010, she was part of a large ceremonial re burial of Australian soldiers from World War 1, reburied with full military honours in Frommels in France. At the conclusion, of the afternoon, there was a working bee to sanitise and clean the pews. We thank Catie for welcoming us. And giving us such an interesting insight into her life-to date! Julie Scott, M.U. Albury Member.

***Coming soon– Brides of St Matthew's Anglican Church Albury Gowns of Yesteryear –as a YouTube on the St Matthew's website.**



Memories from Sadie Moffitt: The Brides of St Matthew's Fashion Parade Celebration Evening was held on 21st September 2007. The function raised several thousand dollars, a lot of hard work but so worth the effort!

***Working in partnership** for many years now our Op shop has worked in partnership with **Jack's Rags Wodonga** through the friendship of Jim Hislop from our congregation. They assist many community causes and we have just received a very generous donation to assist with st Matthew's Crisis Care.

***Many thanks to individuals and organisations** continuing to remember the needs of others. One of our friends of The Masons in Albury reminded me of a little box he has in his kitchen that he places a couple of tins in every time he unpacks his shopping and then when it is full he drops it down to St Matthew's. A simple act of kindness but of enormous community value.



St Matthew's Craft Group

Meetings first Wednesday each month.

If you would like to be part of this group, please contact St Matthew's Office 6021 3022



*Kate Ashley, part of St Matthew's congregation was recently involved in joining the alto singers in Eric Whitacre Global Virtual Choir number 6 - Sing Gently -the link is:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=InULYfJHKI0&feature=youtu.be>

*Update Hailey Wright, age 6, from Children's Church – out of hospital a couple of weeks ago; spiked with a very high temperature. Readmitted and isolated together with Leah and Rylee. She still had a Hickman Tube in and that was where the infection was. Surgeons took it out and they are home again in North Melbourne. Having three blood tests weekly.



***St Matthew's Garden Fountain** – a new pump is required for the fountain which is the centrepiece of the forecourt as a place of peace and community focal point. Several hundred dollars is required to purchase a new pump. Any donation towards the cost would be greatly appreciated.



***Breaking News:** Available soon: A comfortable 2-bedroom unit, reasonable price, on a monthly rental basis, at St Matthew's Village Central Albury. If interested, please contact St Matthew's Office 6021 3022



*is looking for volunteers – truck drivers, driver assistants, balers, sorters and retail assistants at our Albury and Wodonga Op Shops. Given the changes that have happened with Covid19 and the extra border restrictions coming into place we are in desperate need of volunteers to help keep the doors open (and therefore our phone lines being answered) at both our Albury and Wodonga locations. If interested and for more information, please contact Julie Keeble Administration Lifeline Albury Wodonga P **02 6021 1077**



HAPPY Birthday wishes:
 Angela Braybrooks 27th July
 Kaye Kennedy 30th July

And all celebrating a birthday in July



Prayers for:
 Victoria Chick, Bev Butler, Necia and Graham Searle, Hau and Liz Heta, Ross Altass, Sylvia Williams, Hailey Wright, Ken Ashley
 And Kerrie Wilkinson's niece-in-law Tara
 All who are in our hearts

In Memory: Janet Cant

Out and About



Helen Glachan



Ross Altass



Margaret Shearer



Charles Books on Dean



Julie



Maureen Lewis



Mrs Jakob



Paul Haberecht



Wendy English



MEDITATION across the world and in Albury we are using new ways to stay in touch. There are growing numbers using ZOOM to connect with a meditation group at 5:30 each Thursday. At a time of great stress and isolation this could be just the tonic we need! Connect with

Michelle and Paul on: Zoom:

<http://www.explorationinmeditationandprayer.com/>

PASTORAL CARE: The 'Phone Tree' is a great way to keep in touch. If you would like one of our team to phone you, or if you know of anyone who would appreciate being contacted, please contact Annette 0413 938 541. Through these difficult and changing times it is important we think of each other, and those who are sick and isolated, and pray for all.

TUNES ON TUESDAY continues at the usual time of 1:10pm, every week online, please check our website for details. Join YouTube each Sunday for short Organ Recitals with James Flores at 1:30pm.

Silver Celebration



James Flores, organist and St Matthew's Organ Scholar is pleased to announce the release of a CD to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the St. Matthew's, Albury, Létourneau organ. Own a part of Albury's history by ordering a CD! Buy for \$20.00

<https://silvercelebration.jamesfloresorganist.com/>

St Matthew's Letourneau Pipe Organ – John Scott has written detailed



information about the St Matthew's Letourneau Pipe Organ, this will be available on the St Matthew's website in the near future.

Great Organs of Australia

Masterworks at St. Matthew's

Sydney organist David Drury

Premiere Recording of the Letourneau Organ

Limited copies of this CD available at reduced price of \$15.00 **Every cent raised from the sale of these CD's goes into the Organ Fund.** Purchase from St Matthew's Office or from the Church organists: David Luxon, Malcolm Halford or John Scott.

Albury Chamber Music Festival – Save the date Gala Concert in the presence of their Excellencies the Governor General and Mrs Hurley Saturday 14th November afternoon, and Sunday 15th November the Vice Regal Festival Service at St Matthew's, Artistic Co-Directors Sally-Anne Russell and Conductor Mario Dobernig. Please check the Festival Website for updates.

PARISH FINANCES – Share the load! There is something we can all do, if we all do a little, it will sort the problem, we can stop talking about it and it will be one less thing to worry about. In gratitude for all those who are making an extra effort, Fr Peter has reduced his pay by 20% to help lighten the load. He

wonders if others could consider making a small regular donation to help get us through. Please consider making direct deposits to the Church accounts. Without further contributions the Parish will not be able to pay Fr Peter's wages and other fixed costs for June and beyond. Your assistance is needed.

Bank details are:

Account name: St Matthews Church Albury

BSB: 032736

Account no: 392189

Reference: 'Giving' and your name

Please help us reach all our Parish Members: If any of your friends have recently got an email address, could you please send an email to St Matthew's Office, with their name and email address, so we can add it to our emailing list. Share the news and connection by emailing the Keeping Connected Newsletter to family and friends.



REMINDER:

Evensong first Sunday each month

Tune in Sunday 2nd August 5pm

St Matthew's Albury YouTube



REGULAR UPDATES - Please keep going back to the website, includes Livestream links , Facebook and YouTube.

***JOIN US for a Livestream Service EACH SUNDAY 9:00 am
on our website, Facebook or YouTube.***

***This is a GREAT WAY of keeping the action alive and
looking to the future.***